

## Absentee Balloting

For some Hoosier voters, casting a ballot in person at the polls on Election Day poses a great challenge. Voters with disabilities or the elderly may have a hard time getting to the polls, or they may be confined to their homes. Work obligations or travel may also prevent voters from voting in person at the polls. Regardless of the reason, if one is unable to vote in person on Election Day, there are several alternatives that allow voters in Indiana to cast a ballot without actually going to their polling place.

All registered voters are eligible to vote absentee-in-person by appearing in the office of the county clerk during the 29 days before Election Day. Voters must bring photo ID to vote in their clerk's office before Election Day.

By far the most commonly used alternative is voting absentee-by-mail. Any registered voter who meets any of the following conditions may apply to vote absentee-by-mail:

1. You have a specific, reasonable expectation that you will be absent from the county on Election Day during the entire 12 hours that the polls are open (6 am to 6 pm).
2. You have a disability.
3. You are at least 65 years of age.
4. You will have official election duties outside of your precinct.
5. You are scheduled to work at your regular place of employment during the entire 12 hours that the polls are open.
6. You will be confined due to illness or injury or you will be caring for an individual confined due to illness or injury during the entire 12 hours that the polls are open.
7. You are prevented from voting because of a religious discipline or religious holiday during the entire 12 hours that the polls are open.
8. You are a participant in the state's address confidentiality program.

In addition, voters who fit into category 2 or 3 above are eligible to apply to vote absentee-by-traveling board. This provides a safe, bipartisan option for voters needing additional assistance. Voters will need to complete an absentee ballot application and return it to the county election board (in the county clerk's office). Applications must be received by midnight at least 8 days before Election Day for absentee-by-mail applications, or by noon on the day before Election Day for absentee-by-traveling board applications.

When the county election board receives the application, they will process it and, if the application is approved, mail the voter an absentee ballot. The completed ballot may be returned to the county election board by mail, by bonded courier company, or in person by yourself, a member of your household, or the person holding your power of attorney. Neither absentee-by-mail and absentee-by-traveling board balloting requires voters to show a photo ID.

Military personnel and their families who are living overseas or other overseas voters are also eligible to vote absentee. Please refer to the Secretary of State website [www.sos.in.gov/elections](http://www.sos.in.gov/elections) or contact your Military Voting Assistance Officer for more information.